

1994, VMNH survey (VMNH, 1).

*Henry Co.*: DuPont property near Martinsville, 1-7 November 1993, J. M. Anderson, VMNH survey (VMNH, 1).

*Mecklenburg Co.*: Elm Hill [now Dick Cross] Wildlife Management Area, 7.5 mi SE Boydton, 30 October-27 November 1995 (VMNH, 3), same but [27 November 1995? -] 24 February 1996 (VMNH, 5), all VMNH surveys.

*Wise Co.*: Powell Mountain Karst Preserve, ca. 1.3 km E Cracker Neck Church, Solomon's Seal Cave pitfall traps, 6-28 April 2009, C. S. Hobson and A. V. Evans, VDCR-DNH survey (AVEC, 1), same but 28 April-13 May 2009, C. S. Hobson and A. C. Chazal, VDCR-DNH survey (VMNH, 8), same but 13-27 May 2009, C. S. Hobson and J. F. Townsend, VDCR-DNH survey (VMNH, 10; AVEC, 1); same locality but rock outcrops at Parsons Cave, 12 May 2009, C. S. Hobson and A.C. Chazal, VDCR-DNH survey (AVEC, 1).

These new collections demonstrate that *N. pettitii* is much more widely distributed in the western portion of Virginia than was previously known (Fig. 1) and the species may be locally common (e.g., Wise Co. site). Four of the localities are in the Blue Ridge, two each are in the Ridge and Valley and the Piedmont, and the westernmost site is at the interface of the Ridge and Valley and Cumberland Plateau regions.

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A SECOND LOCALITY FOR *PHYTOCORIS HOFFMANI* HENRY (HETEROPTERA: MIRIDAE). — Henry (2009) described the plant bug *Phytocoris hoffmani* on the basis of two adult males collected by SMR (in a blacklight trap) in a red spruce (*Picea rubens*) forest in the Laurel Fork Recreation Area of the George Washington National Forest in Highland Co., Virginia. The type locality is within 0.3 km of the Virginia-West Virginia border at an elevation of approximately 3600 feet (1097 m) (SMR, pers. obs.). A full page color plate accompanied the description of this moderately large mirid. Although there are no definite plant associations for *P. hoffmani*, Henry (2009) speculated that red spruce would prove to be the host based on the species group to which it belongs. Limited subsequent beating by SMR of red spruce branches in northwestern Highland County has failed to yield additional specimens of this poorly known insect. Thus, RLH was pleasantly surprised to discover that sweep net samples obtained by SMR on 30 June 2010 from grassy bald habitats (elevation ca. 5400 ft/1645 m) near the summit of Whitetop Mountain in Grayson County, Virginia contained two more males of *P. hoffmani*. Whitetop is the second highest peak (5520 ft/1682 m) in the state and located at the common border of Grayson, Smyth, and Washington counties. The bald habitats along Forest Service Road 89 occur immediately downslope of the red spruce forest at the summit of the mountain. *Neolygus crataegi* Henry, another recently described plant bug, is currently known only from Whitetop Mountain and nearby Elk Garden; it is associated with hawthorns (*Crataegus* spp.) (Henry, 2007). The new record for *P. hoffmani* represents a southwestward range extension of about 170 miles/275 km (Fig 1). Both of the Whitetop specimens (and the holotype) are deposited in the Virginia Museum of Natural History, Martinsville, VA.

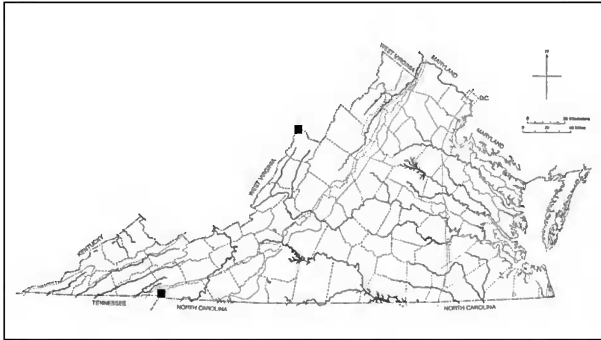


Fig. 1. Known distribution of *Phytocoris hoffmani* Henry.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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*DRASSYLLUS RUFULUS* (BANKS), AN ADDITION TO THE GROUND SPIDER FAUNA OF VIRGINIA (ARANEAE: GNAPHOSIDAE). — Hoffman (2009) prepared the first list of Virginia “ground spiders” (Gnaphosidae), providing records for 45 confirmed species of an estimated state total of about 60 species. His paper listed 17 additional species that may occur in Virginia judging from their presence in neighboring states or other areas of the eastern United States. Subsequent processing of another portion of the large backlog of unidentified spiders at the Virginia Museum of Natural History has verified that one of these species, *Drassyllus rufulus* (Banks), inhabits Virginia. This species ranges from New Hampshire south to North Carolina and west to Texas and Colorado (Platnick & Shadab, 1982), and was previously documented in four of the five states bordering Virginia. Platnick & Shadab (1982) cited records for this species from 16 states and Ontario, but typically had only one record per state, perhaps suggesting that the species is widespread but uncommon. The Virginia record is based on the following collection from a drift fence-pitfall array operated by personnel of the Virginia Division of Natural Heritage: *City of Virginia Beach*, Little Creek Amphibious Base, 21 June 1989, K. A. Buhlmann (2♂).

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